

SENATE RESOLUTION 159  
By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Jewell Fesmire of Milan.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Jewell Fesmire; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Fesmire was an exemplary public servant and consummate humanitarian who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a native of Henderson County, Granny Jewell, as she was known to everyone in Milan, was born August 19, 1908; and

WHEREAS, a loving and generous individual, Granny Jewell offered a home-cooked meal and a comforting shoulder to any and all who needed them; famous among the residents of Milan for her culinary acumen, she fed everyone in town, from the Mayor to the youngster who mowed her lawn; and

WHEREAS, an industrious soul, Ms. Fesmire was seldom idle, spending her time running the family company, catering, and caring for her many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, even well into her eighties; and

WHEREAS, a woman who never uttered an unkind word against anyone, her love of family and friends defined her; she took care of her mother for sixteen years, one act of selflessness and kindness among a lifetime's worth which endeared her to all who came to know her; and

WHEREAS, Granny Jewell was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully for many years; the church's oldest member for many years, she remained active in her Sunday School class and the Methodist Women's Circle, for whom she often opened her home; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Fesmire was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she enjoyed the loving companionship of Earl Fesmire, who died in 1953; the couple were the proud parents of four children, Imogene Harris, Martha Layne Fesmire, James Fesmire, and the late Dalton Fesmire; and

WHEREAS, a true matriarch, she was the doting grandmother of Gloria Knott, Keith Fesmire, Pam McAlpin, Jan Anderson, Jane Haas, Lee Fesmire, and Cassie Robinson; the loving great-grandmother of Melissa West, Brandon Jones, Clay Anderson, Jake Anderson, Jason McAlpin, Catie Robinson, Erin Robinson, Natalie Fesmire, Caroline Fesmire, Case Fesmire, Jane Roetzel, Amy Roetzel, and Adam McAlpin; the great-great-grandmother of Emily West, Dylan West, and Brennan Robinson; and the great-great-great-grandmother of Landon Moreno; and

WHEREAS, Jewell Fesmire leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Jewell Fesmire, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Ms. Fesmire.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.